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ABSTRACT

This workbook for use with third, fourth, or fifth grade elementary school students focuses on the people and cultures of four mainland countries of Southeast Asia: Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand. The book offers an introduction for teachers and 14 lessons. Lesson 1 helps students recall what they may already know about Southeast Asia and its culture. Lesson 2 focuses on the geography of Southeast Asia. Lesson 3 presents an overview of this area's diverse peoples and their history. Lesson 4 presents a myth from Thailand. Lessons 5 through 8 cover topics related to classical or traditional culture in each of the four countries. Lesson 9 focuses on Tet, the Vietnamese lunar new year celebration. Lessons 10 and 11 deal with the civil wars in Southeast Asia and the resultant flow of refugees to other countries. The final three lessons look at the varieties of ways in which people adjust to new cultures, covering maintaining tradition and adapting to new ways, tensions between older and younger generations, and three Southeast Asian Americans in different profession in the United States. Each lesson contains activities that call for short answers, creative writing, and the expression of students' opinions. An answer key is also provided. (JB)

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